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Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)

Implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III)

Note by the Secretariat

1. At its forty-fourth session, the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space reviewed the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III). The Committee had before it the results of the survey conducted among Member States to identify the level of interest and priority for each action constituting the nucleus of a strategy contained in "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration on Space and Human Development".[1] The Committee had before it a note by the Secretariat (A/AC.105/L.234) and conference room papers (A/AC.105/2001/CRP.4 and Add.1) containing results of the survey.

2. On the basis of the results of the survey, the Committee identified the recommendations that had been assigned highest priority by Member States and those for which the offers to be leaders of the activities had been received from Member States. The Committee established action teams for those recommendations under the voluntary leadership of Member States. Following the forty-fourth session of the Committee, the interim coordinators for all those action teams were identified.

* A/AC.105/C.1/L.253.

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3. As requested by the Committee,[2] the Office for Outer Space Affairs of the Secretariat informed the entities of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations having observer status with the Committee of the work accomplished and the progress made in the establishment of action teams and conducted the survey among those organizations in order to identify the recommendations for which they wished to be members of the action teams. In its resolution 56/51, the General Assembly endorsed the decision of the Committee to grant permanent observer status to the European Association for the International Space Year, the National Space Society and the Space Generation Advisory Council. Subsequently, those organizations were invited to provide information in response to the questionnaire circulated for the survey.

4. Of the 26 entities of the United Nations system that received the questionnaire, 15 responded and 11 designated their points of contact for the action teams in which they were interested in participating. Of the 15 organizations having observer status with the Committee, 8 responded and designated their points of contact for the action teams in which they were interested. The list of Member States and the organizations and other entities that have indicated their interest in joining the action teams and Member States and organizations and other entities participating in the teams after having been invited is contained in annex I. Some of the organizations have designated their points of contact only for the purpose of receiving information on the activities of the action teams concerned, as indicated in annex I. Details of the points of contact, including telephone and facsimile numbers and electronic mail (e-mail) addresses received by the Office for Outer Space Affairs, have been made available on the web site of the Office (http://www.oosa.unvienna.org/unisp-3/followup/index.html) and are being updated on a regular basis.

5. Some organizations and other entities have indicated their interest in the recommendations for which action teams have not yet been established. The list of those organizations and other entities and the relevant recommendations are contained in annex II.

6. At the twenty-second session of the Inter-Agency Meeting on Outer Space Activities, the participating organizations of the United Nations system noted that it was important for each action team to share detailed information on the development of its plan, including objectives, anticipated outcomes, implementation strategies and financial implications. The Inter-Agency Meeting was of the view that that would enable the organizations of the United Nations system to participate, within their resources, as partners (A/AC.105/799, para. 36).

7. The Inter-Agency Meeting stressed that, in carrying out their work, the action teams should take into account and utilize existing international coordination and cooperation mechanisms, such as the Integrated Global Observing Strategy Partnership. The Inter-Agency Meeting invited the action teams to take stock of existing mechanisms and programmes relating to their work in order to develop better linkage, synergy and collaboration among the various mechanisms and programmes (A/AC.105/799, para. 37).

8. The Inter-Agency Meeting recommended that the Scientific and Technical Subcommittee at its thirty-ninth session should consider the possibility of having, wherever appropriate, a combination of Member States, organizations of the United

Nations system and relevant entities as coordinators for some of the action teams (A/AC.105/799, para. 38).

Notes

[1] *Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19-30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1.

[2] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 20* and corrigendum (A/56/20 and Corr.1), para. 61.

Annex I

Action teams established by the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

Recommendation[a]	*Interim coordinator(s)*	*States that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)*		*Entities of the United Nations system, organizations having observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other organizations that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)*	
		Number of States	*Names of States*	*Number of organizations and other entities*	*Names of organizations and other entities*
1 Develop a comprehensive, worldwide environmental monitoring strategy	Iran (Islamic Republic of), Philippines and Syrian Arab Republic	22	Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Brazil, China, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States	8	Statistics Division of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat, United Nations International Drug Control Programme (UNDCP), Economic Commission for Europe (ECE), Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO),[b] European Space Agency (ESA), International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS) and Manila Observatory
2 Improve the management of Earth's natural resources	India	25	Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Czech Republic, France, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States	5	ECE, ESCAP, UNESCO,[b] Manila Observatory and Philippine Astronomical Society
4 Enhance weather and climate forecasting	Portugal	23	Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Hungary, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and United States	5	ESCAP, UNESCO,[b] World Meteorological Organization (WMO), Manila Observatory and Philippines Astronomical Society

Recommendation[a]	Interim coordinator(s)	States that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)		Entities of the United Nations system, organizations having observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other organizations that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)	
		Number of States	Names of States	Number of organizations and other entities	Names of organizations and other entities
6 Improve public health services	Canada	21	Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Czech Republic, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and United States	4	ESCAP, World Health Organization (WHO),[c] Manila Observatory and Philippine Astronomical Society
7 Implement an integrated, global system to manage natural disaster mitigation, relief and prevention efforts	Canada, China and France	38	Argentina, Australia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States	10	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (ISDR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, ESCAP, UNESCO, WHO,[c] ESA, European Association for the International Space Year (EURISY), Manila Observatory and Philippine Astronomical Society
10 Improve universal access to and compatibility of space-based navigation and positioning systems	Italy and United States	27	Australia, Austria, Belarus, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, China, Colombia, Czech Republic, France, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Lebanon, Mongolia, Morocco, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and United States	9	ESCAP, International Telecommunication Union (ITU), European Commission, ESA, European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation (Eurocontrol), Civil GPS Service Interface Committee, EURISY, International Association of Institutes of Navigation, International GPS Service

Recommendation[a]	Interim coordinator(s)	States that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)		Entities of the United Nations system, organizations having observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other organizations that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)	
		Number of States	Names of States	Number of organizations and other entities	Names of organizations and other entities
11 Promote sustainable development by applying the results of space research	African States, under the leadership of Nigeria	23	Azerbaijan, Belarus, Brazil, Chile, China, Czech Republic, Egypt, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Lebanon, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and United States	7	ESCAP, UNESCO,[b] ISPRS, EURISY, National Space Society of the United States, Manila Observatory and Philippine Astronomical Society
14 Improve the international coordination of activities related to near-Earth objects	United Kingdom	14	Australia, Brazil, China, Czech Republic, Finland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, United Kingdom and United States	6	ESA, Committee on Space Research (COSPAR), International Astronomical Union, National Space Society, Spaceguard Foundation, European Space Science Committee of the European Science Foundation
17 Enhance capacity-building by developing human and budgetary resources	Japan	21	Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Canada, Egypt, France, Hungary, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and United States	6	ESCAP, UNESCO,[b] ESA, COSPAR, IAU and Manila Observatory
18 Increase awareness among decision makers and the general public of the importance of space activities	Austria and United States	21	Australia, Austria, Brazil, Czech Republic, Egypt, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Italy, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and United States	10	ESCAP, UNESCO,[b] ESA, COSPAR, International Law Association, ISPRS, EURISY, National Space Society, Manila Observatory and Philippine Astronomical Society

Recommendation[a]	*Interim coordinator(s)*	*States that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)*		*Entities of the United Nations system, organizations having observer status with the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other organizations that have offered to be members of the action team (as at 1 February 2002)*	
		Number of States	*Names of States*	*Number of organizations and other entities*	*Names of organizations and other entities*
32 Identify new and innovative sources of financing to support the implementation of the recommendations of UNISPACE III	France	10	Australia, Czech Republic, France, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Kazakhstan, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines and Syrian Arab Republic	4	ESCAP, ESA, National Space Society, Manila Observatory and Philippine Astronomical Society

[a] The recommendations have been numbered based on their order of appearance in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration for Space and Human Development" (*Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19-30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1).

[b] To be communicated through the Office for Outer Space Affairs.

[c] For information purposes only.

Annex II

Recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) for which action teams have not been established and organizations and other entities that have indicated their interest in those recommendations

Recommendation[a]		*Organizations and other entities that have indicated their interest (as at 1 February 2002)*
3	Develop and implement the Integrated Global Observing Strategy	Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), World Meteorological Organization (WMO), European Space Agency (ESA), Manila Observatory
5	Minimize harmful effects of space activities on the local and global environment	International Law Association, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
8	Promote literacy and enhance rural education through tele-education	ESCAP, UNESCO, International Organization of Space Communications (Intersputnik), Philippine Astronomical Society
9	Improve knowledge-sharing through the promotion of universal access to space-based communication services	ESCAP, UNESCO, Intersputnik, Philippine Astronomical Society
12	Improve the scientific knowledge of near and outer space through cooperative activities	ESA, Philippine Astronomical Society
13	Protect the near-Earth space and outer space environments through mitigation of space debris	ESA, Committee on Space Research, International Astronomical Union (IAU), International Law Association, National Space Society of the United States
16	Minimize interference with bands in the electromagnetic spectrum	IAU
19	Establish and/or strengthen national mechanisms for the coordination of space activities	ESCAP, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
20	Improve the sharing of information on and use of spin-offs from space activities	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat, ESCAP, International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), National Space Society, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
21	Provide educational opportunities for youth to learn more about space science and technology	ESCAP, UNESCO, ESA, IAU, International Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing (ISPRS), European Association for the International Space Year (EURISY), National Space Society, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
22	Create, within the framework of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, a consultative mechanism to facilitate the participation of youth in cooperative space activities	ESCAP, ESA, ISPRS, National Space Society, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
23	Create awards to recognize outstanding contributions in space activity	ESCAP, National Space Society, Manila Observatory

Recommendation[a]		*Organizations and other entities that have indicated their interest (as at 1 February 2002)*
24	Reaffirm the role of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, its subcommittees and its secretariat in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space	ESCAP, Intersputnik, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
25	Ensure sustainable funding mechanisms for the regional centres for space science and technology education, affiliated with the United Nations, and enhance support for the United Nations Programme on Space Applications	ESCAP, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
26	Encourage the increased use of space-related systems and services by the organizations of the United Nations system and by the private sector	ESCAP, IAEA, Intersputnik, National Space Society, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
27	Invite States to ratify or accede to, and invite intergovernmental organizations to declare acceptance of, the outer space treaties	Intersputnik, National Space Society, Manila Observatory
28	Further consider the agenda structure and working methods of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subcommittees	Intersputnik, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
29	Strengthen the coordination of mutually beneficial activities between the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and other United Nations entities	Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, ESCAP, UNESCO, Intersputnik, Manila Observatory
30	Call upon the international community to consider the recommendations of the regional preparatory conferences for UNISPACE III	ESCAP, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
31	Establish a special voluntary United Nations fund for the implementation of UNISPACE III recommendations	ESCAP, Manila Observatory, Philippine Astronomical Society
33	Promote the peaceful uses of outer space through cooperation between "space-faring" and "non-space-faring" countries, as well as among developing countries	ESCAP, International Law Association, National Space Society, Manila Observatory

[a] The recommendations have been numbered based on their order of appearance in the resolution entitled "The Space Millennium: Vienna Declaration for Space and Human Development" (*Report of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, Vienna, 19-30 July 1999* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.I.3), chap. I, resolution 1).